

The Vermilion Flycatcher in Florida. — On the 25th of March, 1901, late in the afternoon of a very damp, cloudy day, I shot a male Vermilion Flycatcher (*Pyrocephalus rubineus mexicanus*) on a marsh three miles from Tallahassee, Fla. The gaudy plumage of the bird attracted my attention and after several efforts to approach it close enough to shoot I finally took a chance shot at it on the wing, with the desired result. When first discovered it was sitting quietly on a barbed-wire fence, near the water, at short intervals launching out after some passing insect and invariably returning to the same perch. The bird was in excellent condition. Upon examination of the gizzard I found small black and green beetles therein. Is this not the first record of the occurrence of this species in Florida? I find no mention of it in Chapman's 'Handbook of Birds of Eastern North America,' nor in Cory's 'List of the Birds of Florida.' — R. W. WILLIAMS, JR., *Tallahassee, Fla.*

Bachman's Sparrow in Virginia. — In May, 1897, I took a pair of Bachman's Sparrows (*Peucea aestivalis bachmani*), together with their nest and eggs, in this locality, which was the first instance of the occurrence of the species in the State. On April 27 of this year, while out collecting, I again met with the species. This time only one bird was seen and probably it had just arrived from the South. It was running among some grass tufts which grew alongside a fence leading into a body of small pines. On my nearer approach, it perched upon a grass tuft and was collected. It is now in my collection.

I learn from Mr. Rufus Barringer, of Charlottesville, Va., that the species is fairly common in Albemarle County, where Mr. Barringer has taken its nest and eggs; it seems to be a fairly abundant summer resident in this county (Campbell) where it nests in old fields, which are grown up in weeds and scrub pines. No doubt it also occurs and breeds in the southeastern part of the State, but its retiring nature and habit of skulking in the grass cause it to be very easily overlooked. — JOHN W. DANIEL, JR., *Lynchburg, Va.*

Piranga rubra in Massachusetts. — On May 12, 1901, while walking in Newton, I heard the call of the Summer Tanager and on going in pursuit soon came up with the bird. It was not in red plumage, but from a certain streaky, splashy, unsettled appearance, the orange-red being very bright in spots, I took it for an immature male. This, however, is a matter of very inexpert opinion. As to the identity of the bird as *Piranga rubra*, there could be no doubt. I had it under my glass (an eight-power Zeiss) for some time at short range, under the most favorable conditions; and while thus under observation it uttered again and again its very peculiar and thoroughly characteristic polysyllabic signal, with which I am fairly familiar from having heard it often at the South. According to Messrs Howe and Allen's 'Birds of Massachusetts' this may count as the sixth Massachusetts record. — BRADFORD TORREY, *Wellesley Hills, Mass.*